Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A spring tensioning mechanism comprising:

a support bracket;

an axle, supported by the support bracket;

an outboard plate, disposed adjacent to, and secured to, the support bracket;

an inboard plate, disposed adjacent to the outboard plate and rotatable relative to the outboard plate;

a spring, disposed around the axle, having a first end secured to the inboard plate and a second end operably connected to the axle.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 1 ~~further comprising a clocking feature on~~ wherein the outboard plate includes circumferentially spaced bores formed therein.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 2 wherein ~~the clocking feature~~ circumferentially spaced bores on the outboard plate are operable to receive a fastener or ~~comprises~~ a pin ~~bore~~.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 1 ~~further comprising a clocking feature on~~ wherein the inboard plate includes circumferentially spaced bores formed therein.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 4 wherein ~~the clocking feature~~ circumferentially spaced bores on the inboard plate are operable to receive a fastener or ~~comprises~~ a pin ~~bore~~.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 2 ~~1~~ wherein ~~further comprising a~~ the ~~pin~~ bore in the outboard plate cooperates with ~~and a corresponding pin~~ the bore in the inboard plate.

7. (ORIGINAL) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 1 wherein the inboard plate comprises at least one receiver.

8. (ORIGINAL) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 7 wherein the receiver has the shape of a hollow square tube.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A spring tensioning mechanism comprising:

a support bracket having a substantially-planar main panel having an axle bore disposed therein;

an axle, disposed orthogonally to the substantially-planar main panel and passing through the axle bore and having a drum secured thereto;

an outboard plate disposed inboard of the support bracket and secured to the support bracket;

an inboard plate disposed inboard of the outboard plate and rotatable relative to the outboard plate;

a spring, disposed around the shaft, having a first end secured to the inboard plate and a second end secured to the drum.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 9 ~~further comprising a clocking feature on~~ wherein the outboard plate includes circumferentially spaced bores formed therein.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 10 wherein ~~the clocking feature~~ circumferentially spaced bores on the outboard plate are operable to receive a fastener or ~~comprises~~ a pin ~~bore~~.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 9 ~~further comprising a clocking feature on~~ wherein the inboard plate includes circumferentially spaced bores formed therein.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 12 wherein ~~the clocking feature~~ circumferentially spaced bores on the inboard plate are operable to receive a fastener or ~~comprises~~ a pin ~~bore~~.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 9 wherein ~~further comprising a~~ the ~~pin~~ bore in the outboard plate cooperates with ~~and a corresponding pin~~ the bore in the inboard plate.

15. (ORIGINAL) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 9 wherein the inboard plate comprises at least one receiver.

16. (ORIGINAL) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 15 wherein the receiver has the shape of a hollow square tube.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A spring tensioning mechanism comprising:

a support bracket having a substantially-planar main panel having an axle bore therein, and a mounting panel disposed orthogonally to the main panel;

an outboard plate having a bearing therein the outboard plate being disposed inboard of the support bracket and secured thereto by at least one fastener;

an axle, supported by the bearing and having a drum disposed thereon, disposed orthogonally to the substantially-planar main panel and passing through the axle bore;

an inboard plate disposed inboard of and rotatable relative to the outboard plate and having a set of receivers disposed adjacent to the perimeter thereof; and

a coil spring, disposed around the shaft, having a first end secured to the inboard plate and a second end secured to the drum.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 17 ~~further comprising a clocking feature on~~ the outboard plate and the inboard plate include a means for securing the inboard plate to the outboard plate in a selected rotational position of the inboard plate with respect to the outboard plate.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 17 ~~further comprising a clocking feature on~~ wherein the means for securing include a pin or fastener projecting through cooperating bores formed in the inboard plate and the outboard plate.

20. (ORIGINAL) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 17 further comprising a retaining pin shaped and sized to lock the radial orientation of the inboard plate with respect to the outboard plate.

21. (NEW) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 1 wherein the inboard plate and the outboard plate include a means for securing the inboard plate to the outboard plate in a selected rotational position of the inboard plate with respect to the outboard plate.

22. (NEW) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 1 wherein the means for securing include a pin or fastener projecting through cooperating bores formed in the inboard plate and the outboard plate.

23. (NEW) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 1 further comprising a bearing supported by the outboard plate for receiving the axle in supportive relationship thereto.

24. (NEW) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 9 wherein the inboard plate and the outboard plate include a means for securing the inboard plate to the outboard plate in a selected rotational position of the inboard plate with respect to the outboard plate.

25. (NEW) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 9 wherein the means for securing include a pin or fastener projecting through cooperating bores formed in the inboard plate and the outboard plate.

26. (NEW) The spring tensioning mechanism of claim 9 further comprising a bearing supported by the outboard plate for receiving the axle in supportive relationship thereto.